

# Social Finance Fund Companion Module to Common Impact Data Standard

An Ontology for Representing Social Finance Fund Reporting  
Requirements

Version 2.0.0, November 5, 2025

Ontology URL: <https://ontology.commonapproach.org/sff>

For further information, contact: [info@commonapproach.org](mailto:info@commonapproach.org)

## **Recommended Attribution**

Common Approach to Impact Measurement (2025) "Social Finance Fund Companion Module v2.0.0", Common Approach to Impact Measurement.

## **Acknowledgements**

The Social Finance Fund Companion Module was developed by:

- Sharad Barkataki, Common Approach to Impact Measurement, [commonapproach.org](https://commonapproach.org)
- Mark Fox, Centre for Social Services Engineering, University of Toronto, [csse.utoronto.ca](https://csse.utoronto.ca)
- Bart Gajderowicz, Urban Data Consultancy and University of Toronto, [csse.utoronto.ca](https://csse.utoronto.ca)
- Megan Katsumi, Urban Data Consultancy and University of Toronto, [csse.utoronto.ca](https://csse.utoronto.ca)
- Mikayla Loyer, Common Approach to Impact Measurement, [commonapproach.org](https://commonapproach.org)
- Laurentia Perrin, Common Approach to Impact Measurement, [commonapproach.org](https://commonapproach.org)
- Kate Ruff, Common Approach to Impact Measurement, [commonapproach.org](https://commonapproach.org)
- Rob Warren, Common Approach to Impact Measurement, [commonapproach.org](https://commonapproach.org)
- Garth Yule, Common Approach to Impact Measurement, [commonapproach.org](https://commonapproach.org)

The development of the Companion Module was supported in part by the Government of Canada's Social Finance Fund.

Social Finance Fund Companion Module © 2025 by Common Approach to Impact Measurement.

## Table of Contents

1. Introduction to the Companion Module	4
1.1. Software alignment with the Social Finance Fund Companion Module	5
1.2. Required Classes and Properties	6
1.2.1. Class and property hierarchies	6
2. SFF Companion Module vocabulary	7
2.1. EDGProfile	8
2.2. FundingStatus	8
2.3. OrganizationProfile	8
2.4. ReportInfo	9
2.5. TeamProfile	9
3. CIDS Basic Tier vocabulary	10
3.1. cids:Characteristic	10
Creating custom, user-defined entries in the Characteristics table	11
Using ESDC's categories for the Characteristics table	12
3.2. cids:Code	13
4. Code Lists (Taxonomies of terms)	14
4.1. CanadianCorporateRegistries	14
4.2. ESDCSector	15
4.3. FundingState	15
4.4. IRIS+ Metrics System	15
4.5. LocalityStatsCan	15
4.6. OrgTypeGOC	16
4.7. PopulationServed	16
4.8. ProvinceTerritory	20
4.9. SDGImpacts	20
4.10. SELI-GLI	21

# 1. Introduction to the Companion Module

[The Common Impact Data Standard](#) is a data ontology for reporting impact. The Social Finance Fund Companion Module extends the Common Impact Data Standard with additional classes and properties in order to collect, analyze, and share impact data that meets the reporting requirements of Canada's Social Finance Fund (SFF).

This document provides an orientation and technical specifications for software vendors interested in providing SFF reporting capabilities to their users, and provides useful information for the users who will configure and use their software to meet the SFF's reporting requirements.

## **For fund managers, impact measurement software users, and senior leaders at software companies:**

We recommend that you focus on the description of the overall requirements at the start of section 2, and on the Class descriptions.

If you need more general information about [the Common Impact Data Standard](#) and data ontologies, but are not someone who develops software, we recommend you read our non-technical resources: [Introduction to the Common Impact Data Standard](#) and [Linking impact data: How a data ontology can ease impact data collection and analysis](#).

The resource collections for [social finance intermediaries \(SFIs\)](#) and [social purpose organizations \(SPOs\)](#) also provide more information about the overall timelines and requirements for impact reporting for Social Finance Fund participants.

For more information about the general approach to collecting demographic data for SFF please see [Disaggregated Demographic Data Collection of Board Members and Management Team for the Social Finance Fund: Options to Consider](#).

## **For software developers:**

This Social Finance Fund (SFF) Companion Module specifies a data model and vocabulary that extends the impact measurement vocabulary defined by the Common Impact Data Standard.

The introduction to RDF and OWL for developers on Common Approach's Github is a good place to start for developers who are unfamiliar with linked data standards.

The Common Impact Data Standard is authored in the Web Ontology Language (OWL), which is used to formally define taxonomy and classification networks for publishing on the Semantic Web. OWL provides a machine-readable way to describe a particular area of practice: what things exist, and how they relate to one another.

Some developers may find this document format more accessible to understand the SFF Companion Module, while others may find other formats more useful. Other documents that describe the Companion Module and its contents include:

- The HTML reference for ontology (<https://ontology.commonapproach.org/2.0/sff-en.html>)
- The OWL files in [Turtle](#), [RDF/XML](#), and other machine-readable formats
- The [SFF and Basic Tier SHACL file](#), for validating an “impact data capsule” RDF file.
- The [Alignment checklist](#) (Excel sheet) which identifies the fields in Basic Tier and the SFF Companion Module.

This document accompanies and describes the content of the OWL files, which are the authoritative source of the data ontology. Where there is a conflict between the OWL file and other documents, the OWL file (specifically the Turtle serialization) will prevail.

## 1.1. Software alignment with the Social Finance Fund Companion Module

For software to be aligned with the SFF Companion Module, it must demonstrate the following capabilities:

- Collect and store all of the required data classes and properties outlined in [section 1.2 Required Classes and Properties](#).
- Export and import valid JSON-LD files aligned with this standard.

Software vendors demonstrate their commitment to aligning to the standard by signing an MOU with Common Approach. Once the MOU is signed the software vendor’s name and logo can be included in the list of aligned software on the Common Approach website, in the “Software” section. Each of the alignment criteria above will then be verified by Common Approach staff on a mutually agreed timeline.

## 1.2. Required Classes and Properties

Participants in the Social Finance Fund will be required to collect, manage, and share impact report data covering the classes and properties:

- of the Basic Tier of the Common Impact Data Standard, and
- of the Social Finance Fund Companion Module.

These classes and properties are annotated in the CIDS and SFF OWL files with the `cids:blongsToTier` property, with values `cids:BasicTier` and `cids:SFFTier` respectively. The same tags are used in the [Alignment Checklist](#).

### 1.2.1. Class and property hierarchies

The Common Impact Data Standard and the Social Finance Fund Companion Module define some classes as subclasses (children) of other classes, and likewise some properties as subproperties of other properties. A subclass or subproperty inherits properties from its parent class or property.

The Alignment Checklist and SHACL representations of the ontology terms and relationships expand all subclasses to explicitly show all the properties inherited from parent classes, whereas the OWL files do not. This means that, for example, because the `FinancialOrganization` and `StandardsOrganization` classes are subclasses of `Organization`, they repeat all the same properties. From a practical perspective of mapping the terms to a relational database, they are just different types of `Organization`, and could likely be modelled in a single table.

The implication of subclass relationships for developers mapping a relational database (or creating one) is that not every class in the ontology necessarily needs its own table or Domain Object Model (DOM). Parent and subclass instances could use the same table and be differentiated with an explicit column for "@type", for example.

The class and property parent-child relationships in Basic Tier and SFF Companion Module appears below. The complete list for the full data standard is included in the Alignment Checklist.

Table: Class and Property Hierarchy

Parent Class	Child Class
cids:Code	cids:EquityDeservingGroup, cids:FundingState, cids:Locality, cids:OrganizationType, cids:PopulationServed, cids:ProvinceTerritory, cids:Sector
cids:Organization	cids:FinancialOrganization, cids:SocialPurposeOrganization, cids:StandardsOrganization
i72:Compound_unit	i72:Unit_division, i72:Unit_exponentiation, i72:Unit_multiplication
i72:Indicator	cids:Indicator
i72:Parameter	i72:Cardinality
i72:Singular_Unit	i72:Cardinality_unit, i72:Monetary_unit
i72:Unit_of_Measure	i72:Singular_unit, i72:Unit_multiple_or_submultiple, i72:Compound_unit
org:Organization	cids:Organization
sch:Address	cids:Address
sch:Person	cids:Person
Parent Property	Child Property
sch:description	cids:hasDescription
sch:identifier	org:hasIdentifier

## 2. SFF Companion Module vocabulary

This vocabulary reference focuses on the conceptual definitions of the terms. The complete details of the property datatype and cardinality restrictions are in the OWL HTML reference (<https://ontology.commonapproach.org/2.0/sff-en.html>)

In the descriptions below, classes and properties are assumed to be in the sff: namespace unless otherwise specified.

## 2.1. EDGProfile

EDGProfile provides information about the number of members belonging to a specific equity deserving group, as part of a board or management team, for a designated time interval.

Its properties are:

forEDG	Refers to a <code>cids:Characteristic</code> defining an equity-deserving group.
hasSize	The number of team members identifying as members of the equity-deserving group at the reported date.
reportedDate	The reported date of the EDGProfile.

## 2.2. FundingStatus

As a property of `OrganizationProfile`, the `FundingStatus` class provides information on the status of an organization's application to a funder or investor. Its properties are:

reportedDate	The date that the <code>FundingStatus</code> was reported or conferred.
<code>cids:forOrganization</code>	The Organization that the funding status pertains to.
forFunder	A string denoting the name of the Funder associated with the funding application.
hasFundingState	Refers to a Code for a <code>FundingState</code> . The code should map to the concepts of "applied" "in process" "approved" "rejected".
<code>cids:hasDescription</code>	A description of the <code>FundingStatus</code> .

## 2.3. OrganizationProfile

An `OrganizationProfile` holds information about an organization and the scope of its impact activities that go beyond the basic organizational data held by the `cids:Organization` class.

The Organization Profile is required reporting information for both Social Purpose Organizations (SPOs) and Social Finance Intermediaries (SFIs). The only difference in implementation for SPOs and SFIs is that SFIs are not required to populate data in the "hasBoardProfile" property.

An `OrganizationProfile` instance captures information reported at a point in time. An organization may have multiple `OrganizationProfile` instances created at different times. Its properties are:



hasPrimaryContact	Refers to a Person who is the primary contact with respect to the Organization's impact report.
hasBoardProfile	Refers to a TeamProfile describing the demographic composition of the Organization's Board at a point in time.
hasFundingStatus	Refers to statuses of the Organization's funding applications to funders.
hasManagementTeamProfile	Refers to a TeamProfile describing the demographic composition of the Organization's Board at a point in time.
localityServed	Refers to a Code list of locality types that the Organization serves, defined by ESDC.
organizationType	Refers to a Code list of organization types defined by ESDC.
primaryPopulationServed	Refers to a Characteristic defining a population served by the organization; the Characteristic may refer to the PopulationServed code list of demographic groups defined by ESDC.
provinceTerritoryServed	Refers to a Code list of Canadian provinces and territories that the Organization serves.
sectorServed	Refers to a Code list of impact sectors or categories, defined by ESDC, that the Organization serves. It is based on the IRIS+ Thematic Taxonomy.
cids:forOrganization	Refers to the Organization associated with the OrganizationProfile.
reportedDate	The date that the Organization updated or submitted the report.

## 2.4. ReportInfo

The ReportInfo class provides definitive information on the time interval that a report covers, and can provide some contextual information about the report contents via the report name. Its properties are:

cids:forOrganization	Refers to the Organization that is the subject of the impact report.
org:hasName	A name for the impact report.
prov:endedAtTime	The end of the time interval that the impact report covers.
prov:startedAtTime	The start of the time interval that the impact report covers.

## 2.5. TeamProfile

The Team Profile provides a profile of a board or management team for a specified interval of time. Its properties are:

cids:hasComment	A comment on the impact report.
-----------------	---------------------------------

hasEDGSize	Refers to the total number of team members self-reporting as belonging to any equity-deserving group at the time of reporting.
hasTeamSize	Refers to the total number of team members at the time of reporting, regardless of self-identification.
hasEDGProfile	Refers to the EDGProfiles (one for each Characteristic self-reported) for the team profile.
reportedDate	The date that the TeamProfile was reported.

### 3. CIDS Basic Tier vocabulary

This section provides implementation guidance specific to Social Finance Fund for Common Impact Data Standard Basic Tier classes and properties. Not all Basic Tier classes and properties are described here. For general information on the Basic Tier classes and properties see the [Common Impact Data Standard HTML reference documentation](#), or refer to the short class and property descriptions in the [Alignment Checklist](#).

#### 3.1. cids:Characteristic

Reporting organizations will use the Characteristic class to define the equity deserving groups represented by the members of their management and board teams, and to define the population demographics and equity-deserving groups that their organization serves.

Each organization creates their own list of Characteristics, each with a URI that is specific to that reporting organization. Each Characteristic term is mapped to the applicable matching term in ESDC's [Population Served code list](#) using the hasCode property of Characteristic.

If the Organization does not already have a pre-existing list of Characteristics in their data, they may replicate the recommended list from ESDC. In this case, mapping the terms using hasCode is straightforward.

If the Organization has a list of demographic categories already defined, each term is created as a Characteristic instance, and then mapped to the closest corresponding term in the ESDC list.

The properties of Characteristic are:

org:hasName	The name of the Characteristic. Could be inferred from hasCode if applicable.
cids:hasCode	Refers to Codes that belong to defined taxonomies for this node type.
cids:hasDescription	A description of the Characteristic

## Creating custom, user-defined entries in the Characteristics table

EXAMPLE: The fictional organization “Zero Waste Meal Kits” has an existing set of categories used to track historical board demographic data. They have data on the number of their Board members who identify as “men”, “women”, “trans men”, and “trans women”.

To set up a data model for their impact report that maps to their existing data collection, Zero Waste Meal Kits would create these four entries in their **Characteristic** table:

**Table 1: Characteristic table example for user-defined categories**

@id	hasName	hasDescription	hasCode
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/men/">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/men/</a>	Men		
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/transmen/">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/transmen/</a>	Trans Men		<a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps1">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps1</a>
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/women/">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/women/</a>	Women		<a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps22">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps22</a>
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/transwomen/">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/transwomen/</a>	Trans Women		<a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps22">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps22</a> , <a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps1">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps1</a>

There is no **hasCode** entry for “Men” because there is no corresponding entry in the **PopulationServed** table that ESDC has identified as an Equity Deserving Group.

“Trans Men” has used the code for **PopulationServed** item ps1, “2SLGBTQIA+”, whose description is “People who identify as being two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and others (“+”).”

Both “Women” and “Trans Women” have been associated with **PopulationServed** item ps22, “Women (Cisgender and Transgender)”.

“Trans Women” has been coded as both ps1 and ps22.

Descriptions are optional and have been left blank (Zero Waste Meal Kits does not have written descriptions for the categories).

## Using ESDC's categories for the Characteristics table

EXAMPLE: The fictional organization "Zero Waste Meal Kits" has no historical data about their Board composition. They will set up a data model for their impact report that uses the demographic data categories provided in the ESDC **PopulationServed** list:

**Table 2: Characteristic table example for ESDC categories**

@id	hasName	hasDescription	hasCode
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/2SLGBTQIA">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/2SLGBTQIA</a> <b>(note the "+" has been removed)</b>	2SLGBTQIA+	People who identify as being two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and others ("+").	<a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps1">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps1</a>
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/womenCisgenderTransgender">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/womenCisgenderTransgender</a>	Women (Cisgender and Transgender)	All people who identify as women, whether they are cisgender or transgender women.	<a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps22">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps22</a>
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/peopleOfAdvancedAge65Plus">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/peopleOfAdvancedAge65Plus</a>	People of Advanced Age (65+)	People who are 65 and older.	
<a href="https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/physicalSensoryOrPainRelatedDisability">https://zerowaste.ca/Characteristic/physicalSensoryOrPainRelatedDisability</a>	People Living with Physical, Sensory or Pain-Related Disabilities	People living with disabilities, impairments, and/or functional limitations [...]	<a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps18">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps18</a> , <a href="https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps27">https://codelist.commonapproach.org/PopulationServed#ps27</a>
... and so on, for any or all of the other Populations and/or Equity Deserving Groups for which they will collect data about Board members' self-identification.			

In this case, the values for **hasName** and **hasDescription** are copied directly from the **PopulationServed** list entries, and the relevant URI is entered in **hasCode**.

Note that the URIs have been written to conform to the general URI syntax defined in [RFC 3986](#), only using uppercase and lowercase letters (A-Z, a-z), decimal digits (0-9), hyphen (-), period (.), underscore (\_), and tilde (~).

The “+” was removed from “2SLGBTQIA+” in the URI, as this is a reserved character with a special meaning in the context of URIs.

“People of Advanced Age (65+)” is not an Equity Deserving Group by ESDC’s definition, but it can still be used as a demographic data category if organizations want to collect this data for their own purposes. The **@type** property in the **PopulationServed** class/table indicates whether or not an item is an Equity Deserving Group.

Item ps18 “People Living with Physical, Sensory or Pain-Related Disabilities” is not directly a member of the Equity Deserving Group list. This is visible in the **@type** property of ps18 in the **PopulationServed** table. However, its **skos:broader** property identifies ps18 as a sub-item of ps27, “People Living with a Disability (including invisible and episodic disabilities)”, which is an Equity Deserving Group. Counting people identifying as ps18 as members of EquityDeservingGroup ps27 is *technically feasible* given this **skos:broader** relationship. However, it requires extra effort by analysts that cannot be guaranteed, and so it is recommended that Characteristics be explicitly mapped to Equity Deserving Groups using hasCode where applicable.

## 3.2. cids:Code

Code lists define a set of values for a particular property or attribute. Each code list is modeled as a class, and each permissible value in the code list is an instance of that code list class. The code lists in section 4 are, for the most part, subclasses of the cids:Code class.

Each code instance has properties including:

org:hasName	The name of the Code list item.
cids:hasDescription	A description of the code.
org:hasIdentifier	The unique identifier for the Code list item in context of its list e.g. "A1103".
cids:definedBy	The Organization that defined the Code. Refers to a cids:Organization.
cids:hasSpecification	The URI where the definition of the code can be found (the URI for the code list).
sch:codeValue	The value of the code, if appropriate.
i72:value	An alternative specification of sch:codeValue using ISO/IEC 21972 Measure.

## 4. Code Lists (Taxonomies of terms)

The definitive versions of all code lists, including all required fields and full URIs, are hosted at <https://codelist.commonapproach.org/>

### Code list summary:

Code List name	List values defined by	Values not from the list allowed?	Comments
CanadianCorporateRegistries	Common Approach	Yes	Used with the org:issuedBy property of the org:OrganizationID class.
ESDCSector	ESDC	No	Used with Organizationprofile sectorServed property. This list is based on the IRIS+ Thematic Taxonomy.
FundingState	User	Yes	Used with FundingStatus hasFundingState property. Users may use values that reflect their funding and approval process.
IRIS+ taxonomy	GIIN	n/a	This list is available for optional use.
LocalityStatsCan	ESDC	No	Used with OrganizationProfile localityServed property.
OrgTypeGOC	ESDC	No	Used with OrganizationProfile sectorServed property.
PopulationServed	ESDC	Yes	Used with cids:Characteristic hasCode property. Users may select all values that apply.
ProvinceTerritory	ESDC	No	Used with OrganizationProfile provinceTerritoryServed property
SDGImpacts	UN	Yes	Used with the cids:Theme hasCode property. Users must associate at least one Theme to the SDGs, but may also use other Themes with or without SDG codes.
SELI-GLI	ESDC	No	Provides the required SELI-GLI questionnaire as a linked list of cids:Themes, cids:Outcomes, and cids:Indicators.

### 4.1. CanadianCorporateRegistries

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with the org:issuedBy property of the org:OrganizationID class.

## 4.2. ESDCSector

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with OrganizationProfile sectorServed property.

This list is based on the IRIS+ Thematic Taxonomy.

## 4.3. FundingState

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with FundingStatus hasFundingState property.

SFIs participating in Social Finance Fund may develop their own code lists for funding states following the model of code lists described in this document. [An example list is provided here.](#)

The list items should distinguish concepts of 'applied', 'rejected', and 'funded'. SFIs and wholesalers need this information because only the data from "funded" organizations will be shared to ESDC.

## 4.4. IRIS+ Metrics System

Published by the Global Impact Investing Network. Shared as an RDF vocabulary by Common Approach.

IRIS+ Categories ([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

IRIS+ Themes: ([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

IRIS+ Metrics: ([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

The IRIS+ metrics library is a comprehensive system of standardized metrics used for impact measurement and management, primarily in the fields of social and environmental impact investing. Developed by the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), the library helps investors, organizations, and other stakeholders evaluate and report on their social, environmental, and financial performance using consistent and comparable data.

## 4.5. LocalityStatsCan

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with OrganizationProfile localityServed property.

The Locality list is presented per [Statistics Canada's 2016 Population Centre and Rural Area Classification](#) and [2021 classification of the Canadian North](#) (also see Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's resources on Indigenous Peoples and Lands).

## 4.6. OrgTypeGOC

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with OrganizationProfile organizationType property.

A list of organization types informed by Government of Canada definitions.

- Non-Profit: Non-profit organizations are associations, clubs, or societies that are not registered charities or individuals, but are organized and operated exclusively for social welfare, civic improvement, pleasure, recreation, or any other purpose except profit. Non-profit organizations may be incorporated or unincorporated.
- Charitable: Charitable organizations are registered as such with the Canada Revenue Agency and have a charitable Registration Number.
- For-Profit: For-profit organizations are businesses or corporations that are organized and operated for the purpose of generating profit.
- Cooperative: A cooperative is an association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise incorporated under specific legislation (e.g., the Canada Cooperatives Act) at the provincial, territorial, or federal level. Depending on the governing legislation, cooperatives may be for-profit or non-profit entities. Source: [Information Guide on Co-operatives - Co-operatives in Canada](#)

## 4.7. PopulationServed

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with cids:Characteristic hasCode property. Users may select all values that apply. **List items in bold** are identified by ESDC as equity-deserving groups for the purposes of the Social Finance Fund.

Primary population served refers to the primary population(s) the SFI or SPO aims to serve with its products and/or services. The primary population(s) served should be clearly identifiable from an SFI's or SPO's mission statement, operational documents, and/or public communications.

- General Population
  - Canadians and people living in Canada in general.
- **2SLGBTQIA+**



- People who identify as being two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and others (“+”).
  - Two-Spirit – An English term used to broadly capture concepts traditional to many Indigenous cultures. It is a culturally-specific identity used by some Indigenous people to indicate a person whose gender identity, spiritual identity and/or sexual orientation comprises both male and female spirits.
  - Lesbian – Typically a woman who is sexually and/or romantically attracted to other women
  - Gay – A person who is sexually and/or romantically attracted to people of their same sex or gender identity. Traditionally this identity was reserved for men, but it has been adopted by people of all gender identities
  - Bisexual – A person who is sexually and/or romantically attracted to two or more genders.
  - Transgender – A person whose gender identity differs from what is typically associated with the sex they were assigned at birth.
  - Queer - Historically a derogatory term used as a slur against 2SLGBTQI+ people, this term has been reclaimed by many 2SLGBTQI+ people as a positive way to describe themselves, and as a way to include the many diverse identities not covered by common 2SLGBTQI+ acronym.
  - Intersex – An umbrella term to capture various types of biological sex differentiation. Intersex people have variations in their sex characteristics, such as sex chromosomes, internal reproductive organs, genitalia, and/or secondary sex characteristics (e.g. muscle mass, breasts) that fall outside of what is typically categorized as male or female.
  - Asexual – A person who lacks sexual attraction or interest in sexual expression. An asexual person’s sexual and romantic orientations may differ (e.g. biromantic asexual), and they may have sexual and/or romantic partners.
  - + – “+” represents people who use other terms to refer to their gender identity or sexual orientation.

*NOTE: 2SLGBTQIA+ terminology is continuously evolving. As a result, it is important to note that this list is not exhaustive and these definitions are a starting point to understanding 2SLGBTQI+ identities. Different 2SLGBTQI+ individuals and communities may have broader or more specific understandings of these terms.*

SOURCE: [2SLGBTQI+ terminology – Glossary and common acronyms - Canada.ca](https://www2.gov.ca/en/gov/about/initiatives/2slgbtqiplus/glossary/)

- **Gender Diverse People: Agender**

- People who do not identify as, or with, any particular gender.

SOURCE: [AGENDER | English meaning - Cambridge Dictionary](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/agender)

- **Gender Diverse People: Non-Binary**

- People whose gender identity does not align with a binary understanding of gender such as man or woman. It is a gender identity which may include man and woman, androgynous, fluid,

multiple, no gender, or a different gender outside of the “woman—man” spectrum.

SOURCE: [2SLGBTQI+ terminology – Glossary and common acronyms - Canada.ca](https://2slgbtqiplus.ca/glossary-and-common-acronyms)

- **Gender Diverse People: Other**

- People whose gender identity does not align with any of the other options provided.

- **Black People**

- People belonging to any of various population groups of especially African ancestry often considered as having dark pigmentation of the skin but in fact having a wide range of skin colours.

SOURCE: [Guide on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Terminology \(noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca\)](https://noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/guide-on-equity-diversity-and-inclusion-terminology)

- **Indigenous Peoples: First Nations**

- In Canada, Indigenous people who are part of a First Nation or whose ancestors were part of a First Nation. A First Nation person can be a Status or Non-Status Indian.

SOURCE: [Guide on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Terminology \(noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca\)](https://noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/guide-on-equity-diversity-and-inclusion-terminology)

- **Indigenous Peoples: Inuit**

- In Canada, Indigenous People that inhabit or that traditionally inhabited the northern regions and Arctic coasts of Canada known as Inuit Nunangat, and whose members are united by a common origin, history and culture.

SOURCE: [Guide on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Terminology \(noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca\)](https://noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/guide-on-equity-diversity-and-inclusion-terminology)

- **Indigenous Peoples: Métis**

- In Canada, Indigenous People whose members are of mixed First Nations and European ancestry, are united by a common origin, history and culture, and are generally accepted by the Métis Nation.

SOURCE: [Guide on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Terminology \(noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca\)](https://noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/guide-on-equity-diversity-and-inclusion-terminology)

- **Indigenous Peoples: Not Further Specified**

- In Canada, individuals who self-identify as Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, or Métis) but do not specify their group affiliation, are unsure of their specific ancestry, or identify with another Indigenous community not listed separately.

- **Other Racialized People**

- People other than Indigenous peoples or Black Canadians who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour (refer to the [Statistics Canada](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-62-x/2016001/article/14861-eng.htm) definition for “visible minorities”).

- **First Generation Immigrants, Refugees & Newcomers**

- First Generation Immigrants – People who were born outside Canada. For the most part, these are people who are now, or once were, immigrants to Canada. (SOURCE: [Classification of Generation Status - 1 - First generation \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-62-x/2016001/article/14861-eng.htm))
- Refugees – People who were forced to flee from persecution in their home country. This includes Convention refugees (as defined by the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (S.C. 2001, c. 27)) and asylum-seekers or refugee claimants.
- Newcomers –Immigrants and Refugees that have been in Canada for less than five years.

- **Lone Parent Families**

- Families or homes where there is one parent present or living there. The lone, or single, parent can be any sex or gender, any ethnicity, and any sexuality. They do not have to be blood-related parents either to be classed as a parent.
- Northern Canadian Communities
  - Communities located, and people living, in Northern Canada, which is defined as:
    - The three Canadian territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut), and the northern extent of Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. North is based on provincially determined definitions that generally reflect administrative regions. (See [Variant of Standard Geographical Classification \(SGC\) 2021 for North and South - N - North \(statcan.gc.ca\)](#))
- **Official Languages Minority Communities**
  - In Canada, official-language minority communities are mainly French-speaking people living outside the province of Quebec and English-speaking people living in the province of Quebec.
- People Experiencing Homelessness or Housing Insecurities
  - People without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means, and ability of acquiring it.
  - Homelessness and housing insecurity encompass a range of physical living situations, including being:
    - Unsheltered, or absolutely homeless and living on the streets or in places not intended for human habitation;
    - Emergency Sheltered, including those staying in overnight shelters for people who are homeless, as well as shelters for those impacted by family violence;
    - Provisionally Accommodated, referring to those whose accommodation is temporary or lacks security of tenure, and finally,
    - At Risk of Homelessness, referring to people who are not homeless, but whose current economic and/ or housing situation is precarious or does not meet public health and safety standards.

[SOURCE: COHhomelessdefinition.pdf \(homelesshub.ca\)](#)
- People Living on Low Income
  - People living on low income as defined by any of several relative indicators/thresholds used by the Government of Canada to measure low income: low income cut-offs (LICOs), market basket measure (MBM), and/or low income measure (LIM).

[SOURCE: A backgrounder on poverty in Canada - Canada.ca](#)
- People Living with Cognitive or Mental Health Related Issues
  - People living with disabilities, impairments, and/or functional limitations related to cognitive, learning, communication or mental health related issues, whether apparent or not, and permanent, temporary or episodic in nature, that hinders their full and equal participation in society when they face a barrier.

[SOURCE: Adapted from Accessible Canada Act \(justice.gc.ca\)](#)
- People Living with Physical, Sensory or Pain Related Disabilities

- People living with disabilities, impairments, and/or functional limitations related to physical, sensory, or pain, whether apparent or not, and permanent, temporary or episodic in nature, that hinders their full and equal participation in society when they face a barrier.  
 SOURCE: Adapted from [Accessible Canada Act \(justice.gc.ca\)](https://www.justice.gc.ca/accessible-canada-act)
- People Living with Terminal or Chronic Illness/Diseases
  - People living with disabilities, impairments, and/or functional limitations related to terminal or chronic illness/disease, whether apparent or not, and permanent, temporary or episodic in nature, that hinders their full and equal participation in society when they face a barrier.  
 SOURCE: Adapted from [Accessible Canada Act \(justice.gc.ca\)](https://www.justice.gc.ca/accessible-canada-act)
- **People Living with a Disability (including invisible and episodic disabilities)**
  - A combined category covering the three more specific disability-related categories
- People of Advanced Age (65+)
  - People who are 65 and older.
- People without Advanced Educational Qualification
  - People that have not completed any university, college or other post-secondary qualification.
- Survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual assault, Abuse or Stalking
  - People who identify as being survivors of domestic violence, including intimate partner violence, sexual assault, stalking and/or harassment.
- **Women (Cisgender and Transgender)**
  - All people who identify as women, whether they are cisgender or transgender women.
- Children (Ages 0-15)
  - Any person aged 0-15.
- Youth (Ages 15-24)
  - Any person aged 15-24.

## 4.8. ProvinceTerritory

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

Used with OrganizationProfile provinceTerritoryServed property

Province and Territory list is provided by ESDC, per [Statistics Canada, Abbreviations and codes for provinces and territories, 2021 Census](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-62-x/2019001/article/00001-eng.htm).

## 4.9. SDGImpacts

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Taxonomy of Impact Themes is used with the `cids:Theme` `hasCode` property. Users must associate at least one Theme to the SDGs, but may also use other Themes with or without SDG codes.

The SDG Taxonomy of Impact Themes refers to a classification system that maps specific impact themes to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are a set of 17 global goals adopted in 2015 by the United Nations to address urgent challenges such as poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, and climate change by 2030. Each goal has specific targets, and the SDG taxonomy links impact themes to these goals to help organizations align their activities and investments with the global agenda.

## 4.10. SELI-GLI

([rdf/xml](#) / [turtle](#) / [json-ld](#) / [triples](#) / [csv](#))

This list provides the Social Equity Lens Investing-Gender Lens Investing questionnaire as a linked list of `cids:Themes`, `cids:Outcomes`, and `cids:Indicators` so that they can be programmatically pulled into software for reporting, and responses aggregated.

Reporting organizations model their questionnaire responses as `cids:IndicatorReports` with yes/no values, and link the `IndicatorReports` to the URI for the associated questions (as `cids:Indicators`) from the SELI-GLI list.